

House we passed an economic stimulus package, a ban on human cloning, a faith-based bill, an energy bill, just to name a few. What action has the other body taken on these items in response? Absolutely none.

To borrow a word from the majority leader in the other body, this lack of action is disappointing.

All of us in Congress are sent here to get a job done. The leader of the other body should not be allowed to single-handedly derail the people's business.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the people on the other side of the Capitol to put business over politics and allow votes on these important bills.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Once again, the Chair will admonish Members not to characterize the action or inaction of the other body.

PROTECTING OUR NEIGHBORS

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, one of the real bright spots following September 11 in this country has been the number of times that Americans have stood up for tolerance and against hate. Last weekend I was at the Northgate Mosque north of Seattle to visit a mosque where people had actually tried to burn down the mosque. When I got there, there were four people standing out in front of the mosque waving at people driving by, and I asked folks in the mosque what those folks were doing. They said that they were a neighborhood watch guard that had been established by the neighbors of the mosque, none of whom were Muslim, of the Muslim faith, to guard the mosque.

I think there has been a lot of good sides that we have shown the world of protecting our neighbors in this regard.

□ 1015

Now the U.S. Congress ought to do its part and pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act so that we can help local law enforcement help the folks in these neighborhoods protect those who are the subject of hate.

That is the American message, and I think it would be a good holiday statement by the U.S. House of Representatives.

LIFE LION 15TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, Hershey, Pennsylvania, of course, is known throughout the world as the chocolate

capital of the world, but there is another institution in Hershey which also is well known and well accepted in the larger community. That is the Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

One of the fantastic services they provide is what is called the Life Lion, L-I-O-N, Life Lion service of helicopter emergency retrieval of accident victims and emergency victims of all types for transportation to the Medical Center, or for transportation from the medical center to another institution that is more specialized in the kind of medical services required. This helicopter unit is made up of a pilot, a paramedic, and a flight nurse, and is nonstop throughout all the days and all the weeks of the year.

What is important for us, and why I bring it to Members' attention here today, is that this has been serving as a model throughout the Nation for similar types of services, and today they are celebrating 15 years of excellent service to the community.

H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. DEGETTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year a young man in Colorado was brutally beaten and left for dead in southwestern Colorado because he was transgendered and openly gay. His attacker left him in the cold night to die alone, and his body was later found in the advanced stages of decomposition with a broken skull and a slash on his abdomen.

Despite the fact that the attacker later bragged about "killing a fag," the crime has yet to be declared a hate crime, and local prosecutors are without resources to fully investigate the crime.

That is why I rise today to call upon the House to pass H.R. 1343, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. This bill would provide Federal financial and technical assistance to State and local governments to prosecute these horrifying hate crimes and would allow the Federal Government to prosecute crimes where State or local authorities refuse to act.

Congress must pass H.R. 1343 to bring justice for this young man's death and the many hate crimes throughout America.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR JAMES HENSIEN OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major James Hensien of the United States Marine Corps, who has spent the

past year working in my office as Marine Corps Fellow.

As part of the fellowship program, Major Hensien has exemplified the impeccable characteristics that one would expect from an officer of the United States Marines.

Major Hensien has played a key role in my office, advising me on military affairs, both nationally and within my Virginia district.

As Major Hensien's 1-year fellowship comes to a close, I would be doing our Nation a disservice if I failed to recognize Major Hensien and the Marine Corps Fellowship Program for the outstanding service and contributions they have given to Congress and America.

I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service this past year and extend my compliments to the United States Marine Corps Fellowship Program for their continued pursuit of excellence. Major Hensien is a credit to the Marine Corps, and an example of the quality of our men and women in uniform.

Once again, I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service and wish him God speed in all of his future endeavors.

HATE CRIME PREVENTION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise again to support the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001, introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS). The act promotes a strict enforcement of hate crimes, providing Federal assistance to States and local jurisdictions to prosecute these cowardly crimes.

In my own district, in the city of Azusa, we have experienced several hate crimes. In fact, in 1999, 11 hate crimes were reported, Latinos fighting with African Americans. Unfortunately, in this past year, Azusa has already experienced nine hate crimes alone, and those were the only ones that were reported. What about the ones that were not reported?

Earlier this month, a Molotov cocktail was maliciously thrown at three different homes, African American families, and almost killed a young child. In one of these outrageous attacks, the bomb landed in the bedroom of a 6-year-old boy.

We must stand to protect our children and communities from these hateful actions. I want to be able to tell the people in my district that here in Washington, D.C. we are doing something about hate crimes. We need to empower our law enforcement and give more support to combat hate crimes.

AMERICA'S BLOOD SUPPLY READINESS MUCH IMPROVED

(Mr. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1